

### REMARKS

The Official Action mailed August 16, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for One Month Extension of Time*, which extends the shortened statutory period for response to December 16, 2007. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on March 1, 2002; June 4, 2002; October 3, 2002; April 11, 2003; December 16, 2003; March 27, 2006; and December 14, 2006.

A further Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith and consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-26 and 35-62 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. Claims 24 and 35-62 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 19 and 23 have been amended to better recite the features of the present invention, and new claims 63-80 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. Accordingly, claims 19-23, 25, 26 and 63-80 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 19, 63, 69 and 75 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 19-26 and 35-62 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, asserting "[t]here is no exact original antecedent basis for claiming a halogen concentration at  $5 \times 10^{20}$  or less and carbon concentration of  $5 \times 10^{19}$  or less in the interlayer insulating film" (page 2, Paper No. 20070814).

In response, the Applicant has amended claim 19 as shown above. Specifically, the Applicant has deleted the specific halogen concentration for the interlayer insulating film and has included a specific halogen concentration for a gate insulating film. Also, the Applicant has canceled claims 35-62 without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 19-23, 25 and 26, when read in light of the specification, are adequately described and supported in the

specification. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are in order and respectfully requested.

New claims 63-80 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. The Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 63-80 are in condition for allowance.

Please note that the present claims are, in some respects, similar to the claims which were previously pending and rejected. For example, please see the Official Action dated September 9, 2004 (Paper No. 7). The Applicant respectfully submits that the presently claimed insulating film having a specific concentration range is clearly distinguished from a natural oxide of a semiconductor film that was discussed in the above-referenced Official Action. More specifically, the natural oxide cannot contact the first insulating film as recited, for example, in amended claim 19. Also, the natural oxide cannot extend beyond a side edge of a semiconductor film to cover a second region of a first insulating film as recited, for example, in claim 69.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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